Introduction to the Inaugural Volume of International Journal of Community Well-Being

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We are delighted that you are exploring the new *International Journal of Community Well-Being*. In the second issue of the inaugural volume, we continue to advance the knowledge and practice of community well-being as an interdisciplinary broad conception of human and societal well-being.

As noted on our website, the focus of this new journal is on communities of place and interest within geographic or societal spaces concerning social, economic, cultural, social, environmental or political conditions and impacts on individual social and collective or societal well-being. There are myriad disciplines and areas of scholarship that community well-being intersects with, ranging from community development, geography, urban and regional planning, economic development, public administration, regional studies, sociology, community learning and education, psychology and health, to name several. We do not intend to limit the scope by disciplinary boundaries and invite scholarship from any perspective concerned with community well-being seeking further understanding of its applications and dimensions.

See our first issue's introduction for a more thorough exploration of community well-being. In the meantime, we offer that as of yet, there does not exist one definition that clearly defines community well-being. We think this is an opportunity to both help define it, as well as reflect on its interconnectedness, complexity, and many nuances inherent in its study and application across a range of disciplines and contexts. We hope you will join us in seeking theoretical and applied constructs in scholarship and practice in this newer and continually evolving area of growing interest.

With the commencement of Volume 1, we invite “thought leaders” - influential researchers in community well-being to provide an opening essay for each issue. In the first issue, M. Joseph Sirgy, a noted scholar in quality of life studies, shared thoughts on indicators as a means of measuring or assessing community well-being. For our second

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issue, John Haworth, a scholar in who considers well-being from a variety of perspectives including arts and culture, provides an essay on work, leisure and well-being. We have cited his succinct explanation of well-being often in our own work, that is, “it is something we do together,” especially in the context of community well-being, happiness, and flourishing. In other words, his definition implies a sense of the collective, in the spirit of community. His research and practice in innovative and artistic ways to engage are inspiring, and his synthesis of insights across perspectives sets the tone for encouraging more interdisciplinary scholarship.

Join our community of scholars by submitting a manuscript, or a review of a program, policy, or book. We can continue to build and enhance our knowledge of community well-being together.

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